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## How Big A Change In The CIA?

When John M. Hightower of the Associated Press wrote last week end that "the Kennedy Administration was reported Saturday to be developing detailed plans for reorganization of the machinery by which the United States gathers and evaluates cold war espionage information," he touched on a question of major interest to almost every American citizen. For most of us are pretty well fed up with such mistakes as the abortive attempt to launch an anti-Castro revolution in Cuba on the shores of Pig Bay last April.

It is true that the CIA would share with several other agencies the responsibility for poor intelligence on this occasion. But the most direct responsibility would seem to lie on that mysterious organization which officially does the cloak and dagger work for our government. That is the place to start in an overhaul of faulty intelligence—and in Cuba it seems to have been faulty indeed. One of the first demands of officialdom is reported to be that responsibility for coordinating all government intelligence operations should be taken from the worldwide CIA staff, with determination that overseas operations involving military components be separated from CIA at once.

At any rate, it seems to be generally accepted that Director Allen Dulles of the CIA will resign shortly and be replaced and the work of CIA will be looked into by a ten-member board making intelligence estimates on which board defenders of the Dulles regime will be represented. The board is made up of State Department representatives and of the Atomic Energy Commission, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the National Security Agency and the Secretary of Defense.

The nation thus seems assured of detailed study at top level. Some such study already has been made through President Kennedy who has called in General Maxwell D. Taylor and President James R. Killian Jr., of Massachusetts Institute of Technology as consultants.

Heir-apparent to Mr. Dulles' mantle (or shall we say the cloak that hides the dagger) is a man of many parts—a New York attorney, Mr. Fowler Hamilton. Native of Kansas City (Missouri) and aged 50, he is an A.B. degree graduate from the University of Missouri in 1931 and received his master's as a Rhodes scholar at Oxford some three years later. His subsequent roles have been special assistant to the attorney general, director of the war frauds unit, Department of Justice; director of the enemy section of the economic warfare division attached to the American Embassy in London, chief of the enemy branch of the Foreign Economic Administration, Department of Justice's chief of legal counsel, general counsel of the Senate Armed Services' subcommittee on the Air Force, Foreign Petroleum Supply Committee counsel and member of the Middle East Emergency Committee, while sandwiched in his career in 1943-44 (World War II) was service in the Air Force in the China-India-Burma Theater.

Certainly, he should know his way around. Certainly he should know how to keep secrets and how to deal with evildoers and be well equipped to play the role of the mystery man in a mystery department of our government where Mr. and Mrs. America haven't the faintest notion of how many he has on his staff, how much any of them are paid, and what they are looking into. Congress must vote money for the CIA, of course, and knows what the department costs in the round if not in detail. It might be well for Congress, or at least a watchdog committee of that body, to dig a bit deeper into the life and works of the CIA.

Maybe the President has that in mind in the reported sentiment of some Kennedy advisers for splitting up the work done by the CIA. The danger there would appear to be that old bugbear of governmental agencies—the left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing.